

American Opinion Summary

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RUSSIA AND CUBA

Insistence upon effective inspection to insure Soviet compliance on the removal of its missile build-up in Cuba is advocated in additional comment. "The danger of bombs from Cuba will remain until on-the-site inspectors comb the island," Scripps-Howard's Washington News warns.

A naval check on outgoing Soviet ships does not take care of the verification problem, the New York Herald Tribune asserts. "On-site inspection remains the only means of satisfactory verification, and we must continue to insist upon it."

Red Cross inspection of inbound ship cargoes cannot answer the question of verification of removal of the missiles, Hearst's New York Journal-American warns. "It can be done only by on-the-ground observation."

The Denver Post says that President Kennedy must now find a way to cement the "victory" of his agreement with Khrushchev "by really making sure the missiles are gone," adding: "The American people will not settle for less than on-the-ground inspection."

"Firm insistence that Russia live up to its pledge is the minimum our government can accept," the Chicago News declares. "And this means absolute assurance that the weapons sneaked into Cuba are brought out openly. All of them." The Christian Science Monitor suggests that the Kennedy administration is likely to get complete evidence of the missile removal "only by being just as tough now as it was before Mr. Khrushchev made his promise."

The wisdom of continued firmness is suggested in comment from several sources. The Wall Street Journal, although cautioning against a simple policy of getting tough with Russia "in every trouble spot," advises maintaining "the momentum of our rediscovered resolve."

Life magazine suggests that "prime influences" for keeping the hemisphere united may be "firmness of U.S. political purpose," and U.S. economic policy.

The Washington Star is highly critical of what it considers an Administration backdown on inspection, and suggests that "the American people are being kidded by their own government spokesmen."

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